GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:635
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000
AMENDMENT IN INDIAN DIVORCE ACT
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has urged the Government to amend the Indian Divorce Act so that a married Christian woman is not discriminated against while obtaining a divorce;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the Law Commission in this regard;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

(d) Whether the Government have consulted the Christian community in this regard; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) A
MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
JAITLEY)

(a) Yes sir, the Law Commission of India has given a number of Reports on Indian Divorce Act, 1869,the last report being 164th Report given in November, 1998.

(b) The Law Commission has recommended, amendment of section 10 to remove discrimination againstChristian women who may be seeking divorce as well as amendment of sections 17 and 20 of the Indian Divorce Act, 1869,which respectively require confirmation of decrees of divorce/nullity of marriage by the concerned High Courts.

(c) The matter is under active consideration of the Government.

(d) The Government has consulted prominent leaders of the Churches,Members of Parliament belonging to the Christian community and other prominent persons in a meeting held on 28th April, 2000.

(e) There is consensus emerging on the amendments to be brought in the Indian Divorce Act, 1869.